

January 22, 2014

Dear XXX:

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a peer reviewer for the draft NMFS-FWS Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) Status Review. We appreciate your willingness to help with this effort. I've provided some information on our peer review requirements as well as specific instructions below.

In accordance with the Information Quality Act (IQA), the President's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published a Peer Review Bulletin in December 2004 that requires online posting of all peer reviews for "influential" documents. This has been determined by our agency to be influential. To ensure that we have a transparent process for public disclosure, the name and affiliation of each peer reviewer is posted online along with comments. Although we are required to identify peer reviewers by name and affiliation, NMFS has the ability to post a compilation of reviewer comments. Therefore, we will not associate individual comments with reviewer name, but will compile the unabridged comments and organize by a reviewer number. However, if NMFS receives a Freedom of Information Act request, anonymity of peer reviewers or comments cannot be guaranteed. For more information about the IQA, see http://www.cio.noaa.gov/services_programs/info_quality.html. Examples of peer review reports can be found by selecting NOAA Peer Review Plans, and the Peer Review Plan for a specific item, then selecting Peer Review Report, if one has been completed.

The Peer Review Bulletin further requires that non-Federal peer reviewers complete a "Confidential Conflict of Interest Disclosure" form. This form is attached and may be returned with your review or at any time prior to receiving your review. Please note that you are required to submit a resume with the signed form.

Specific Instructions:

- Please review [the entire document or a specific chapter], if possible.
- Provide comments on the scientific information and data contained within the review, as well as its application. If you believe that information is missing, justification for a statement is lacking, or specific information was applied incorrectly in reaching conclusions, please be specific in your comments.
- Comments may be in any form you wish -- mark directly on the draft and return it to me in hard copy, or submit comments electronically to me in any format.
- Be sure that you return a signed conflict of interest form with the peer review and attach a resume.

- Please provide your comments by February 19, 2014.

Note that the draft status review is in a pre-decisional/pre-dissemination status; as such, please keep this document confidential.

The NMFS Office of Protected Resources greatly appreciates your time and effort in completing this review. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me by phone at (301) 427-8472 or by email at susan.pultz@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan Pultz
Endangered Species Biologist

Attachment